

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (original) A composition to be used in a process for electroplating surfaces with tin, said composition comprising the following components (g/l):

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|---|---|--------|
| - | Tin (in a form of tin sulfamate) | 50–90 |
| - | Sulfamic acid, free | 40–100 |
| - | Sulfates, in a form of SO_4^{2-} | 0–15 |
| - | Nitrogen-bearing block copolymer
of propylene oxide and ethylene oxide | 1–6 |

said copolymer having molecular weight of 3950 to 6450 and “number of ethylene oxide links-to-number of propylene oxide links” ratio of 1.4–1.2:1.0 at initial buildup of required number of links from propylene oxide followed by oxyethylation.

2. (original) Composition according to claim 1 having a pH of 0.6 to 1.1.

3. (currently amended) Method for electrotinning a surface in form of a steel strip or plate characterized in that wherein a tinning composition according to claims 1 or 2 is used.

4. (original) Method according to claim 3 performed in continuous electrotinning lines with strip conveying speed of 2 to 11 m/s.

5. (original) Method according to claim 3 performed at temperatures of 20 to 70°C.

6. (original) Method according to claim 3 performed at current densities of 5 to 70 A/dm².

7. (original) Method according to claim 3 in which the strip or plate is subjected to a pre-treatment of degreasing and pickling.

8. (original) Method according to claim 3 in which the strip or plated is subjected to a post-treatment of reflowing, passivation and oiling of tin coating.

9. (currently amended) Strip or plate electrotinned according to the method of claim 3 with a tin coating weight of 3.65 g/m^2 , said strip or plate ~~being characterized by~~ having a relative porosity of about 0.06%.